

**Cabinet Committee on State Planning Issues
Tatnall Building, Room 112
April 13, 2010**

Meeting Summary

Committee Members Present

Cleon Cauley, Governor's Office
Connie Holland, Office of State Planning
Ed Kee, Department of Agriculture
Alan Levin, Delaware Economic Development Office
Carolann Wicks, DelDOT
Anas Ben Addi, Delaware State Housing Authority
Joe Swiski for Lewis Schiliro, Department of Safety & Homeland Security
Tom Cook, Department of Finance
Collin O'Mara, DNREC
Dr. John Marinucci for Lillian Lowery, Department of Education

Also Present:

Karen Horton, DSHA	Mike Mahaffie, OSPC
David Small, DNREC	Dorothy Morris, OSPC
Jennifer Walls, DNREC	Renee Dixon, OMB
Ralph Reeb, DelDOT	Diane Dukes, OSPC
Herb Inden, OSPC	Laura Simmons, OSPC
David Edgell, OSPC	Tamar Shapiro, GICD
Bryan Hall, OSPC	Stephen Burrington, GICD Consultant

The Cabinet Committee on State Planning Issues (CCSPI) met, April 13, 2010 in Conference Room 112 located in the Tatnall Building in Dover. The Committee met to discuss items set forth in the agenda.

Cleon Cauley called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. Cleon welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave a brief overview of the agenda.

Cleon noted that with the Office of State Planning Coordination reporting directly to the Governor's Office one of the first tasks was streamlining the PLUS process.

Cleon also mentioned the meeting with the Governor's Institute back in January and the task of the scorecard that was result of that meeting.

Cabinet Committee on State Planning Issues Background

The Cabinet Committee on State Planning Issues, established per Chapter 91, Title 29, Delaware Code, is charged with coordinating the State's planning and investment decisions and for considering matters relating to the orderly growth and development of the State. By code, the Cabinet Committee on State Planning Issues is to recommend the most desirable pattern of land use in the State and make recommendations on the location of public facilities. The Committee addresses issues including farmland preservation;

open space retention; re-use of aging industrial sites; and developing Delaware's transportation, water and wastewater systems.

Membership includes by code the Department of Transportation Secretary, the Delaware Economic Development Office Director, the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control Secretary, and the Secretary of Agriculture.

Membership by Governor Appointment is extended to the Department of Education Secretary, the Delaware Health and Social Services Secretary, the State Budget Director, the Secretary of Finance, the Department of Public Safety Secretary, the Delaware State Housing Authority Director, and the Office of State Planning Coordination Director.

The goal is to have the Cabinet Committee on State Planning Issues meet quarterly.

Strategies for State Policies and Spending update

Connie Holland began the presentation on Strategies for State Policies and Spending by saying that land use decisions are made locally.

The Strategies document is a policy document. All comprehensive plans and PLUS applications are measured by State Strategies.

The comprehensive plans are updated every five (5) years so the previous cabinet administration decided the strategies would be updated every five (5) years.

This is an update and the majority of the data comes from certified comprehensive plans that can't be changed.

Cleon stated we are not looking at changing Levels 1, 2, 3, and 4. Many municipalities have already prepared their documents using components of Levels 1-4.

Connie commented that Level 3 is a reality check. Compared to Levels 1 & 2 it is like a holding zone. Do not want to continue leap frog developing.

Level 4 is no growth or different growth such as open space and Ag commercial.

Connie stated the Department of Education works closely with State Planning as school sites can't go in Level 4.

Cleon asked if out of play areas are designated Level 4 or just out of play.

Connie stated out of play areas can be anywhere.

Cleon asked if we would want out of play areas in a certain area or in all levels.

Connie stated that it works in all levels and commented that the maps will show more clearly.

Herb Inden is the lead for this update. All questions can be directed to Herb, data inputs can be directed to Mike Mahaffie and all other information requests can be directed to Dorothy Morris.

Connie thanked everyone for their time and support for PLUS and State Strategies.

Connie stated that Secretary Wicks and Ralph have closely involved and a tremendous support to the Office of State Planning Coordination.

Connie stated that using the Strategies for Policies and Spending looks at how we spend our money. The document is policy not law. However the documents used to put it together are law.

Secretary O'Mara raised a few points he would like to make sure is included in reviewing the update. They are tidal overlay; flooding areas; integrate federal responsibilities; having the state lead by example; and fiscal investment.

Connie stated the fiscal investment has always been the goal but final say is up to the Governor.

Cleon stated that first we need to work on using the correct set of information. Something needs to be in place stating how this will be implemented.

Connie expressed her agreement with the points Secretary O'Mara's raised and adding that she would hope the data would be in the municipalities' comprehensive plans also.

Connie advised all the comments are good and all will be considered before adoption.

Cleon stated that with 18 plans due next year, this document can determine how those future plans are developed.

Director Ben Addi expressed his view from a housing perspective.

Connie shared the health, safety and welfare example used for the drinking water grants.

Secretary Kee asked who made the decision of the data sets document that was passed around.

Connie stated that the previous administration's Cabinet Committee on State Planning Issues decided on the data set document being questioned.

Secretary Kee expressed his view from an agriculture perspective.

Secretary Kee commented that these decisions are county decisions and questioned what can be done to make sure this document makes a difference.

Cleon commented that the data is needed to define the policies.

Connie stated that planning is working. Growth is happening in the growth area. Connie gave an example of permits in Sussex County being pulled where infrastructure was available.

Connie noted she hears from the farm community “let me diversify”. We need to make agriculture viable and sustainable.

Secretary Kee expressed his agreement. The challenge is the areas where the levels met. Level 2 meets 3; Level 3 meets 4.

Dr. Marrinucci expressed his agreement on the interconnectiveness Secretary Kee mentioned. Dr. Marrinucci stated that it is impossible for the Department of Education to not support children that live in non favorable levels.

Cleon stated that needs to be addressed on the front end. What are the incentives for having more desirable growth in the favorable levels?

Secretary O’Mara asked if the scorecard will be updated at the same time as the Strategies document.

Secretary O’Mara questioned tracking State Investment Points.

Cleon advised the scorecard and the State Investment Points will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

The next meeting will be tentatively scheduled for the end of July.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.